

**MINUTES  
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
CITY OF DOUGLAS, GEORGIA  
OCTOBER 28, 2013**

**A regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on Monday, October 28, 2013 at 7:05 P.M., in the Council Chambers of City Hall with Mayor James H. Dennis presiding Mayor Pro-Tem Marty Swain and Commissioners Ronnie Anderson, Bob Moore, Richard Hutchinson, Olivia Pearson and Dennis Josey present.**

**INVOCATION**

Commissioner Bob Moore gave the invocation.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Coffee County School Navel JROTC Cadets led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**MINUTES ADOPTION**

The following minutes were unanimously approved:

Work Session.....October 14, 2013  
Commission Meeting..... October 14, 2013

A **MOTION** to unanimously approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Dennis Josey and seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson.

Mayor Pro Tem Marty Swain and Mayor Pro Tem Marty Swain and Mayor Pro Tem Marty Swain and Commissioners Bob Moore, Dennis Josey, Richard Hutchinson, Olivia Pearson and Ronnie Anderson unanimously approved (6-0) the minutes as printed.

**APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA**

The Commission **unanimously** approved the order of the Agenda.

A **MOTION** to approve the order of the Agenda was made by Commissioner Richard Hutchinson, and seconded by Commissioner Bob Moore.

Mayor Pro Tem Marty Swain and Commissioners Bob Moore, Dennis Josey, Richard Hutchinson, Olivia Pearson and Ronnie Anderson **unanimously** approved (6-0) the order of the Agenda as discussed in the work session.

**RECOGNIZE POLICE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER**

Mayor James Dennis along with Robert Sprinkle, and Chief Gary Casteloes recognized and presented a plaque to Officer Ashley Purvis from the City of Douglas Police Department as the Employee of the Quarter.

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**APPROVAL OF THE 2014 HEALTH PLAN CHANGES**

Upon recommendation of Judy Carter, Human Resources Director, a **MOTION** to approve the 2014 Health Plan changes as discussed in the Work Session effective 1/1/2014 was made. This is for the (2) new plans Coffee Select and Aetna 1000. Also to add the elected officials to the health insurance effective 10/28/2013 as discussed in the work session. This was made by Mayor Pro Tem Marty Swain Moore and seconded by Commissioner Richard Hutchinson.

Mayor Pro Tem Marty Swain and Commissioners Bob Moore, Dennis Josey, Richard Hutchinson, Olivia Pearson and Ronnie Anderson **unanimously** approved **(6-0)** the 2014 Health Plan changes as discussed in the Work Session.

**APPROVAL OF THE 2013 MGAG HEDGING RESOLUTION**

Upon recommendation from Mike Hudson, Natural Gas/Water/Wastewater Director, a **MOTION** to allow Mayor James Dennis to sign the 2013 MGAG Hedging Resolution so that any future hedging can be performed with a term of three years was made by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson and seconded by Commissioner Dennis Josey.

Mayor Pro Tem Marty Swain and Commissioners Bob Moore, Dennis Josey, Richard Hutchinson, Olivia Pearson and Ronnie Anderson **unanimously** approved **(6-0)** to allow Mayor James Dennis to sign the 2013 MGAG Hedging Resolution so that any future hedging can be performed.

**APPROVAL OF THE SOUTHERN GEORGIA REGIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

Upon recommendation from Dale Batten, Community Development Director, a **MOTION** to authorize Mayor Dennis to execute the Agreement for Technical Assistance Services between the City of Douglas and the Southern Georgia Regional Commission and designate the City Manager as the contact representative was made by Commissioner Olivia Pearson and seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson.

Mayor Pro Tem Marty Swain and Commissioners Bob Moore, Dennis Josey, Richard Hutchinson, Olivia Pearson and Ronnie Anderson **unanimously** approved **(6-0)** to authorize Mayor Dennis to execute the Agreement for Technical Assistance Services between the City of Douglas and the Southern Georgia Regional Commission and designate the City Manager as the contact representative.

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**APPROVAL OF THE WAIVER OF FACILITY FEES**

Upon recommendation of Terrell Jacobs, City Manager, a **MOTION** was made to approve the request of Post 515 American Legion to feed Troop 848<sup>th</sup> EN Company that will be returning home from war. It is the request that they utilize the facilities at the Central Square complex and the fees to be waived. This is predicated on a schedule to be worked out by Parks and Recreation. The motion was made by Commissioner Olivia Pearson and seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson.

Mayor Pro Tem Marty Swain and Commissioners Bob Moore, Dennis Josey, Richard Hutchinson, Olivia Pearson and Ronnie Anderson **unanimously** approved (**6-0**) the request of Post 515 American Legion to feed Troop 848<sup>th</sup> EN Company and utilize the facilities at the Central Square complex and to waive the fees.

**STAFF COMMENTS**

Pattie Merritt, Main Street Manager announced the following:

- ❖ Boards and Committee Vacancies: (1) Cemetery Committee, (1) Douglas Housing Authority and the (1) Board of Appeals
- ❖ Registration for the Christmas Festival of Lights Parade is underway. The Christmas Parade (Celebrating the Golden Years) will be held Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ Basketball Registration is being held at the Recreation Department.
- ❖ Hometown Harvest October 31<sup>st</sup>.
- ❖ Livers and Gizzards Festival in Broxton Georgia, November 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>
- ❖ Holiday Open House, November 24<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ Stop the Violence March, Saturday November 9<sup>th</sup> 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
- ❖ Registration for Bike Blues and Barbeque Festival this will be held March 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014.
- ❖ Pioneer Harvest Festival, Saturday November 9<sup>th</sup> at the Georgia State Park.

Chief Gary Casteloos, Douglas Police Department discussed car/foot traffic during Halloween. He stated that vehicles will be removed at the owners' expense if blocking sidewalks or roadways prohibiting pedestrian or vehicle traffic, also requesting for citizens to turn off porch lights at 9:00 p.m. with regards to Halloween Activities on October 31<sup>st</sup>.

**GENERAL COMMENTS**

Larry Nesmith, President of the NAACP Coffee County Chapter/Community Awareness Project, appeared before the Mayor and Commission to thanking everyone for attending the meeting concerning the Stop the Violence initiative that was held on October 24<sup>th</sup> at the First Baptist Church located on Gaskin Avenue. Also Mr. Nesmith announced a Blood Drive November 2<sup>nd</sup> and the Stop the Violence March that will be held on November 9, 2013 will start at the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Academy located on Gaskin Avenue.

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**MAYOR AND COMMISSION COMMENTS**

Commissioner Olivia Pearson commended the Public Information Department for organizing the Hometown Harvest Festival and encouraged everyone to attend. Commissioner Pearson also announced that the SRWI (Southern Rural Women Initiative) will be attending the Hometown Harvest Festival to do surveys concerning the needs of the citizens. Also she commended Mr. Nesmith for his efforts with promoting the “Stop the Violence” events that are being held in November.

Commissioner Olivia Pearson expressed concern of the amount of crime that is going on in the City of Douglas.

Mayor Pro Tem Marty Swain thanked everyone for their prayers and support during the passing of his Aunt.

Mayor Dennis stated the following:

- Thanked the Public Information Department with showing hospitality with the 63<sup>rd</sup> World War II Veterans.
- Thanked the staff and all our workers for their hard work and for the input of everyone’s ideas.
- Thanked those that participated with the Community Clean-up that was held October 19<sup>th</sup> at Eastside Park.
- Asked that if anyone had any information regarding Crime Cases, to please contact the Tip Hotline or Police Department “See something...Say something”.
- Stop the Violence event held November 9<sup>th</sup>.
- City of Douglas was presented with a plaque for participating in Kayla Day.
- Support the Coffee High Trojans Football Team.
- (Eastern Standard ) Time will change next Saturday
- Next Commissioners meeting will be held Tuesday November 12<sup>th</sup>.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to discuss in the Regular Meeting, a motion was made to adjourn by Commissioner Richard Hutchinson and seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Anderson.

Mayor Pro Tem Marty Swain and Commissioners Bob Moore, Dennis Josey, Richard Hutchinson, Olivia Pearson and Ronnie Anderson **unanimously** approved **(6-0)** to adjourn.

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James H. Dennis, Mayor

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Wynetta J. Bolder, City Clerk